



DONALD L. WOLFE, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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November 3, 2005

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO FILE: **WR-2**

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY WORK
CONSTRUCTION OF MUDFLOW PROTECTION
BARRIER ALONG COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5
3 VOTES**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY
OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT:**

1. Find that the public interest and necessity demand immediate action to construct a debris barrier to provide additional protection to downstream residences in the City of Burbank from potential mudflows during storm events resulting from the recent Harvard Fire.
2. Find the debris barrier project exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
3. Pursuant to Section 20991 of the Public Contract Code, authorize the Director of Public Works to proceed with the construction of a debris barrier at an estimated cost of \$150,000 to be financed by the Fiscal Year 2005-06 Flood Control District Budget.
4. Authorize the Director of Public Works, acting as Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD), to enter into and execute an Agreement with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to reimburse us for costs of debris barrier construction.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Harvard Fire burned over 800 acres in the City of Burbank, including 55 percent of the 61-acre watershed that includes Country Club Drive. The freshly burned watershed will cause larger than usual amounts of sediment runoff during this and subsequent storm seasons for the next four to five years.

Your Board's October 26, 2005, Resolution authorized Public Works to construct temporary emergency measures to protect the lives and property of residents living adjacent to the burn area. The mudflows on Country Club Drive resulting from the October 17, 2005, storm indicated the need for additional measures that were not specified in the Resolution. The proposed debris barrier will provide additional mitigation for the potential mudflow impacts resulting from the Harvard Fire.

We are recommending your Board authorize the Director of Public Works to perform emergency work by force account for the construction of a mudflow protection barrier at Country Club Drive in the City of Burbank to minimize the damage to downstream properties during the next four to five storm seasons until the watershed recovers from the burn.

Staff from the NRCS reviewed the area with Public Works and indicated that up to 75 percent of the cost of constructing the debris barrier is eligible for reimbursement from the agency under its Emergency Watershed Protection Program. We recommend your Board authorize the Director of Public Works, acting as Chief Engineer of the LACFCD, to enter into and execute an Agreement with NRCS to obtain this reimbursement.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

This action meets the County Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence and Children and Families' Well Being since providing flood protection to residents in a timely manner improves the quality of life in the County.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The estimated cost of constructing the mudflow protection barrier is \$150,000. Sufficient funds are available in the Fiscal Year 2005-06 Flood Control District Budget. Public Works will pursue reimbursements for the eligible cost of this work from the NRCS.

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FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Section 20991 of the Public Contract Code allows your Board to authorize this type of flood control work to be performed by force account.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed project is exempt pursuant to California Public Resources Code 21080(b)(4) and 21804; California State CEQA Guidelines 15269(c), 15303, and 15304; and Class 3 and Class 4 of the revised County Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987.

Filing a Notice of Exemption will serve to satisfy CEQA regulations. A \$25 processing fee will be paid to the County Clerk.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

No contracting of services will be needed.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

There will be no adverse impact on current County services or projects during the performance of the authorized force account work.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD L. WOLFE
Director of Public Works

PW:ac
Harvardbl

cc: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel